



# **CITY OF SANTA BARBARA**

## **COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT**

**AGENDA DATE:** August 5, 2008  
**TO:** Mayor and Councilmembers  
**FROM:** Airport Department  
**SUBJECT:** Wetland Mitigation Monitoring Biological Services Year 2 Contract

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council approve and authorize the Airport Director to execute a contract with URS Corporation for post-construction biological monitoring associated with the Airfield Safety Projects and other small projects at the Santa Barbara Airport in an amount not to exceed \$36,963, and authorize the Airport Director to approve expenditures up to \$3,696 for extra services that may result from necessary changes in the scope of work.

### **DISCUSSION:**

The mitigation phase of the Airfield Safety Projects involves approximately 30 acres over three restoration sites in the Goleta Slough: Area I, Tecolotito Creek Relocation Area, and Tecolotito Creek Berms. In order to comply with the Coastal Development Permit issued for the Airfield Safety Projects, these sites must be monitored and maintained for a minimum of seven years. This authorization would provide funding for biological monitoring through the second year, ending December 2008.

In February 2007 the City of Santa Barbara executed Contract No. 22,267 with URS Corporation for wetland mitigation monitoring biological services for Year 1. At the end of 2007, \$87,494 remained unused under this contract. Funds for Year 1 are expected to be expended in September 2008.

This contract will cover expenses for Year 2 of the mitigation monitoring effort.

### **CONSULTANT SELECTION**

In September 2006, the Airport solicited for biological monitoring and reporting services associated with this project. Consistent with federal requirements, the consultant selection process followed federal guidelines, which require selection based on the qualifications of the consultant, not a fee-based bid. The fee is negotiated after the best-qualified consultant is identified.

Requests for Proposals were sent to qualified firms, and four responses were received. All four responding firms were interviewed and URS Corporation was ranked as having the best qualifications for the work involved.

**BUDGET/FINANCIAL INFORMATION:**

Funds for this contract are available in the Airport Federal Aviation Administration Grant Fund.

**SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT:**

This contract will further the City's Sustainable Santa Barbara Program by enhancing the Goleta Slough ecosystem and protecting it from threats such as invasive species.

**PREPARED BY:** Andrew Bermond, Associate Planner

**SUBMITTED BY:** Karen Ramsdell, Airport Director

**APPROVED BY:** City Administrator's Office